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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/976,314	10/15/2001	Reem Safadi	GEN-120	1920

23353 7590 05/07/2004

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EXAMINER

MISTRY, O NEAL RAJAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/976,314

Applicant(s)

SAFADI, REEM

Examiner

O'Neal R Mistry

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10/15/01 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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### DETAILED ACTION

1. This application has been examined.
2. Claims 1-25 are presented for examination.

The effective file date for the subject matter defined in the pending claims in the applications is 10/15/01.

### *Drawings*

3. Figure 2 is objected to for the 144, 150 & 152, because it requires appropriate descriptive labels. Correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1-25 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lopresti et al (U.S. Patent Number 5,754,939), hereafter referred to as Lopresti.

The presently claimed invention broadly describes a multipurpose user interface device and associated system, which contains a consumer device, a set-top terminal and a user interface device, that enables a user to interface interaction and navigation experience.

4. Claim 1 rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "A consumer device including a central processing unit having a memory for processing communication data; at least one application resident in the consumer device; a user interface device

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having at least one key for interfacing with consumer device; a plurality of software and application programming interface (API) routines resident in the memory of the consumer device, wherein at least one of the plurality of software and API routines forwards a key code to the at least one application, and where the at least one application remaps a corresponding key code function of the at least one key or sequence of keys when the at least one key on the user interface device is selected by a user" (col. 2 line 20- 55) Lopresti discloses a audio/video controller that is connected to a remote control. The audio/video controller and remote control both have processors, RAM, ROM, have applications stored on each of the devices, and applications that could be utilized by the user. The plurality of software is stored in RAM or ROM by the audio/video control unit, and is accessible by the user. (col. 6 lines 53-61).

5. Claim 2 rejected on the teachings of Lopresti: " wherein the plurality of software and API routines comprises a Versatile Remote Control Manager (VRCM)" (col. 6 lines 41-45 & col. 6 line 62 – col. 7 line 5). The remote control unit also includes a digitizing writing surface comprising tablet interface that translates the writing message into instruction for the control to operate.

6. Claim 3 rejected teaching of Lopresti: " wherein the consumer device comprises one of a set-top terminal, a satellite receiver, a television, and any other functionally similar device" (col 2 lines 24-27). Lopresti discloses that the invention was designed for Television, a projection system or monitor.

7. Claim 4 rejected teaching of Lopresti: " wherein the set-top terminal is connected to a CATV communction system" (col. 4 lines 15 –19). Lopresti states

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that the control unit can have connected by a TV tuner, radio frequency, or cable input.

8. Claim 5 rejected teaching of Lopresti: " wherein the user interface device comprises one of a versatile remote control unit (VRC), a remote controller, a web-pad, a Personal Digital Assistant, and a hand-held device with a touch pad screen" (col. 2 lines 31- 38 & col. 7 lines 45-50) This states that PDA can be implemented as TV remote control, that also has a touch screen which the user can write or tap on.

9. Claim 6 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the versatile remote control unit includes a display for displaying at least on least one softkey generated by the VRCM for programming of the application using the VRCM." (col. 4 line 65- col. 5 line 7). Lopresti discloses that digitizing writing surface on the remote control can also be used as a active screen which also accepts pen strokes.

10. Claim 7 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the at least one soft key displays an application type to allow the VRCM to recognized that subsequent soft key selections corresponds to the at least one application selected by the user" (col 8 lines 27-40). Lopresti revealed that they system is able to perform an ink match search on a user or a text search for the preference of the user.

11. Claim 8 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "where in the VRCM causes the display to show the mapping for the corresponding key code function associated with the at least on application" (col. 9 line 65- col. 10 line 5). Lopresti

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disclosed that depicts the VCR control panel has standard play, stop, pause, rewind, and fast forward control. This can be control by the remote control. (*not sure about that source for this one!*)

12. Claim 9 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the display displays a plurality of icons, one of the plurality of icons being associates with the at least one application." (col 10 line 43- col. 11 line 9 Fig. 15) Lopresti states that on the video screen displays icons for games, shopping, i-mail that are controlled by the remote control. The user has the ability to choose to play games, shop, or even i-mail by tapping on the remote control.

13. Claim 10 rejected on the teaching of Lopresti which states programming at least one application resident in a consumer device, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one application resident in a consumer device (col. 6 lines 65- col. 7 line5);

providing a plurality of software and application programming interface (API) routines resident in the consumer device (col. 7 lines 6-10); and

sending control signals to the consumer device using a user interface device (col. 7 lines 11-20),

whereby at least one of the plurality of software and API routines forwards a key code to the at least one application, and

whereby the at least one application remaps a corresponding key code function of the at least one key or a sequence of keys when the at least one key on the user interface device is selected by a user (col. 7 lines 46-59).

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14. Claim 11 rejected on the teachings of Lopresti: "wherein the plurality of software and API routines comprises a Versatile Remote Control Manager (VRCM)" (col. 6 lines 41-45 & col. 6 line 62 – col. 7 line 5). The remote control unit also includes a digitizing writing surface comprising tablet interface that translates the writing message into instruction for the control to operate.

15. Claim 12 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "further including the step of using the VRCM to download and display a graphical representation of the at least one soft key on a display device" (col. 6 line 62-col.7 line 5) Lopresti discloses that the control unit has the ability to download and place the information into RAM which can be later used.

16. Claim 13 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the at least one soft key displays an application type to allow the VRCM to recognized that subsequent soft key selections corresponds to the at least one application selected by the user" (col 8 lines 27-40). Lopresti revealed that they system is able to perform an ink match search on a user or a text search for the preference of the user.

17. Claim 14 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: " further including the step of displaying a mapping for each key, or sequence of keys, and the corresponding key code function associated with the at least one application." (col. 9 lines 10-22). Lopresti further discloses a menu bar, which is associated with the application on the audio/video device.

18. Claim 15 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the display displays a plurality of icons, one of the plurality of icons being associates with the

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at least one application.” (col 10 line 43- col. 11 line 9 Fig. 15) Lopresti states that on the video screen displays icons for games, shopping, i-mail that are controlled by the remote control. The user has the ability to choose to play games, shop, or even i-mail by tapping on the remote control.

19. Claim 16 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: “displaying an icon on the display device that enables the VRCM to recognize that subsequent soft key selections by the user correspond to the at least one application.” (col. 8 lines 40-53). Lopresti discloses that by tapping on the the keyboard icon, a standard keyboard pops up on the screen for the user to use at a search tool. When the user is done with the keyboard, all the user has to do is tap on the keyboard icon again and the keyboard is removed.

20. Claim 17 rejected teaching of Lopresti: “ wherein the set-top terminal is connected to a CATV communction system” (col. 4 lines 15 –19). Lopresti states that the control unit can have connected by a TV tuner, radio frequency, or cable input.

21. Claim 18 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: “ a set-top terminal including a central processing unit for and memory for processing and storing communication data; at least one application resident in the memory of the set-top terminal; a versatile remote control unit having at least on key for sending control signals to the set-top terminal; a Versatile Remote Control Manger (VRCM) resident in the memory of the set-top terminal, wherein the VRCM forwards a key coded to the at least one application, and wherein the at least one application remaps a corresponding key code function for the at least one key or



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a sequence of keys when the at least one key is selected on the versatile remote control unit by a user" (col. 6 lines 17-61). Lopresti discloses that a set-top terminal that contains a processing unit with memory (col. 6 lines 53-61), a remote control that contains a processing unit with memory (col. 5 lines 21- 24), a remote control that has the ability to control many application with using on set of buttons (col. 6 lines 41-45), and a set-top terminal that contains programs (col. 6 62-67).

22. Claim 19 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the versatile remote control unit includes a display for displaying at least on least one softkey generated by the VRCM for programming of the application using the VRCM." (col. 4 line 65- col. 5 line 7). Lopresti discloses that digitizing writing surface on the remote control can also be used as a active screen which also accepts pen strokes.

23. Claim 20 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the at least one soft key displays an application type to allow the VRCM to recognized that subsequent soft key selections corresponds to the at least one application selected by the user" (col. 8 lines 27-40). Lopresti revealed that they system is able to perform an ink match search on a user or a text search for the preference of the user.

24. Claim 21 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the VRCM causes the display to show the mapping for the corresponding key code function associated with at least one application." (col. 1 lines 30-35). Lopresti disclosed

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many buttons do not make the control unit easier to operate, so system uses on-screen display to repeat the current operating parameter of the remote control.

25. Claim 22 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "wherein the display displays a plurality of icons, one of the plurality of icons being associates with the at least one application." (col. 10 line 43- col. 11 line 9 Fig. 15) Lopresti states that on the video screen displays icons for games, shopping, i-mail that are controlled by the remote control. The user has the ability to choose to play games, shop, or even i-mail by tapping on the remote control.

26. Claim 23 rejected teaching of Lopresti: " wherein the set-top terminal is connected to a CATV communction system" (col. 4 lines 15 –19). Lopresti states that the control unit can have connected by a TV tuner, radio frequency, or cable input.

27. Claim 24 is rejected on the teaching of Lopresti: "A cable television system, comprising:"

a set-top terminal including a central processing unit and memory for processing and storing communication data, the set-top terminal connected to a CATV communication system; (col. 4 lines 16-19 & col. 6 lines 53-61)

a display device operatively coupled to the set-top terminal (col.4 lines 16-19);

at least one application resident memory of the set-top terminal (col. 6 lines 65-67);

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a versatile remote control unit having at least one key for sending control signals to the set-top terminal to invoke the at least one application of the set-top terminal (col. 6 lines 21-53);

a plurality of software and application programming interface (API) routines resident in memory of the set-top terminal, wherein at least one of the plurality of software and API routines interact with the at least one application by forwarding a key code for the at least one application, and (col. 8 line 63- col. 9 line 3)

wherein the at least one application remaps a corresponding key code function for the at least one key or a sequence of keys on the versatile remote control unit when the at least one key on the versatile remote control unit is selected by a user. (col. 10 line 43-54)

28. Claim 25 rejected on the teachings of Lopresti: " wherein the plurality of software and API routines comprises a Versatile Remote Control Manager (VRCM)" (col. 6 lines 41-45 & col. 6 line 62 – col. 7 line 5). The remote control unit also includes a digitizing writing surface comprising tablet interface that translates the writing message into instruction for the control to operate.

### **Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to O'Neal R Mistry whose telephone number is (703) 305-2738. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 6pm.

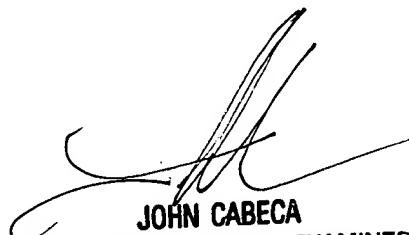
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W Cabeca can be reached on (703)308-3116. The

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fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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